

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend claims 3 and 4 as follows:

1. (Previously Presented) A power use circuit breaker which is connected in an electric circuit and operates to interrupt current flowing through the electric circuit comprising:

an electrical resistance generating unit which adds an electrical resistance in the electric circuit during interruption of current and attenuates the current to be interrupted and a vacuum circuit breaker which is connected in series with the electrical resistance generating unit and operates to interrupt the attenuated current; and

wherein the electrical resistance generating unit is an arc generating switching unit which is closed during current conduction to have a substantially negligible small value of electrical resistance and is opened during current interruption so as to generate an arc and to form an arc resistance circuit.

2. (Previously Presented) A power use circuit breaker including a current interrupting circuit which is connected in

an electric circuit and operates to interrupt current flowing through the electric circuit and a current conducting circuit which is connected in parallel with the current interrupting circuit during interruption of the current so as to transfer conducting current to the current interrupting circuit, wherein:

the current interrupting circuit is provided with an electrical resistance generating unit which adds an electrical resistance in the electric circuit during interruption of the current and attenuates the current to be interrupted and a vacuum circuit breaker which is connected in series with the electrical resistance generating unit and operates to interrupt the attenuated current; and

wherein the electrical resistance generating unit is an arc generating switching unit which is closed during current conduction to have a substantially negligible small value of electrical resistance and is opened during current interruption so as to generate an arc and to form an arc resistance circuit.

3. (Currently Amended) A power use circuit breaker according to claim 1, which is connected in an electric circuit and operates to interrupt current flowing through the electric circuit comprising:

an electrical resistance generating unit which adds an electrical resistance in the electric circuit during interruption of current and attenuates the current to be interrupted and a vacuum circuit breaker which is connected in series with the electrical resistance generating unit and operates to interrupt the attenuated current; and

wherein the electrical resistance generating unit is an arc generating switching unit which is closed during current conduction to have a substantially negligible small value of electrical resistance and is opened during current interruption so as to generate an arc and to form an arc resistance circuit; and

wherein the electrical resistance generating unit is provided with a container which contains gas of which pressure is raised by heating through arcing and the pressurized gas is blasted toward the arc.

4. (Currently Amended) A power use circuit breaker ~~according to claim 2,~~ including a current interrupting circuit which is connected in an electric circuit and operates to interrupt current flowing through the electric circuit and a current conducting circuit which is connected in parallel with the current interrupting circuit during interruption of the current so as to transfer conducting current to the current interrupting circuit, wherein:

the current interrupting circuit is provided with an electrical resistance generating unit which adds an electrical resistance in the electric circuit during interruption of the current and attenuates the current to be interrupted and a vacuum circuit breaker which is connected in series with the electrical resistance generating unit and operates to interrupt the attenuated current; and

wherein the electrical resistance generating unit is an arc generating switching unit which is closed during current conduction to have a substantially negligible small value of electrical resistance and is opened during current interruption so as to generate an arc and to form an arc resistance circuit; and

wherein the electrical resistance generating unit is provided with a container which contains gas of which pressure is raised by heating through arcing and the pressurized gas is blasted toward the arc.